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## <u>ABSTRACT</u>

- 2 A method of orally immunizing a host organism against gastrointestinal, mucosally-invasive
- 3 Mycobacterium avium subspecies paratuberculosis, including the steps of providing an enteric,
- 4 mucosally-adherent, non-systemically invasive Mycobacterium avium subspecies
- 5 paratuberculosis organism and orally administering the MAP organism to a host animal in an
- 6 immunizing dose and manner. Also, a vaccine that includes such a Mycobacterium strain and a
- 7 method of developing the strain.